

# COVID-19

## Return to School Update

### 12/16/2021

*Peggy Stemmler, MD MBA - Contractor*  
*Kip Schlum, MA - Emergency Planning Supervisor*

*Nick Staab, MD, MSPH – Medical Epidemiologist*  
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# US COVID Data



TOTAL CASES

50,181,003

+125,503 New Cases

7 DAY CASE RATE PER 100,000

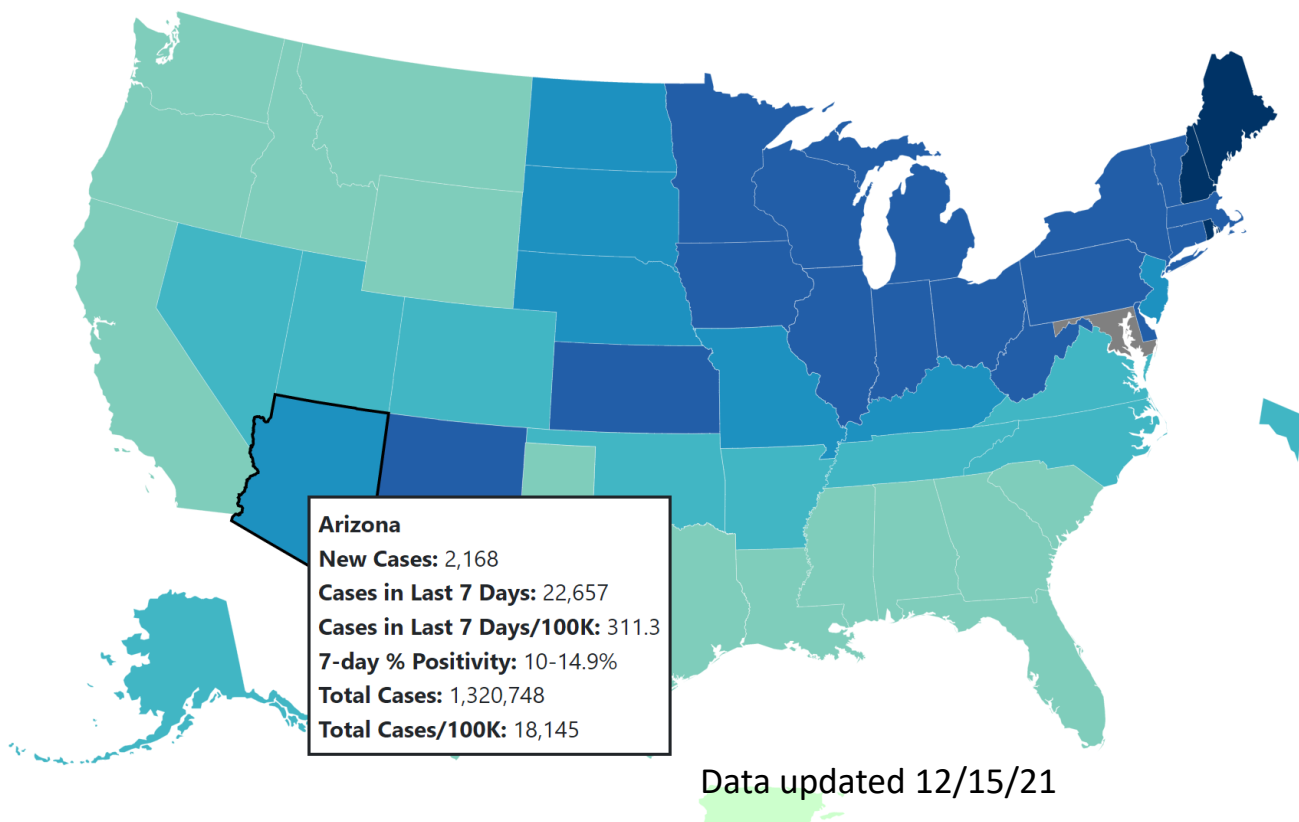
248.7

TOTAL DEATHS

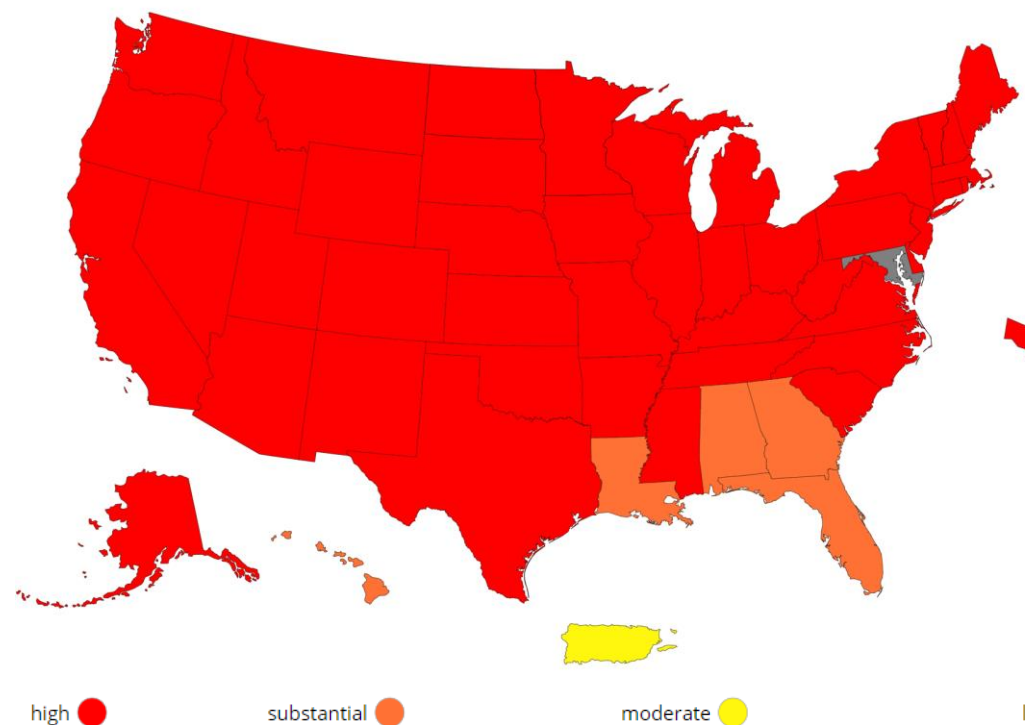
797,877

+1,842 New Deaths

US COVID-19 7-Day Case Rate per 100,000, by State/Territory



Level of Community Transmission of COVID-19, by State/Territory

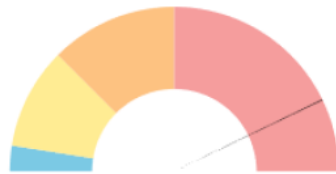


# COVID-19 in Maricopa County



- 309 schools in open outbreak status

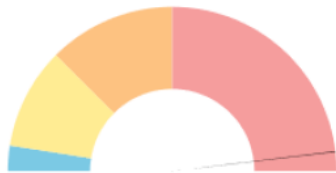
Rate Benchmark: Dates 12/05/21 - 12/11/21



300

cases per 100,000 Maricopa County residents per week

Rate Benchmark: Dates 11/28/21 - 12/04/21

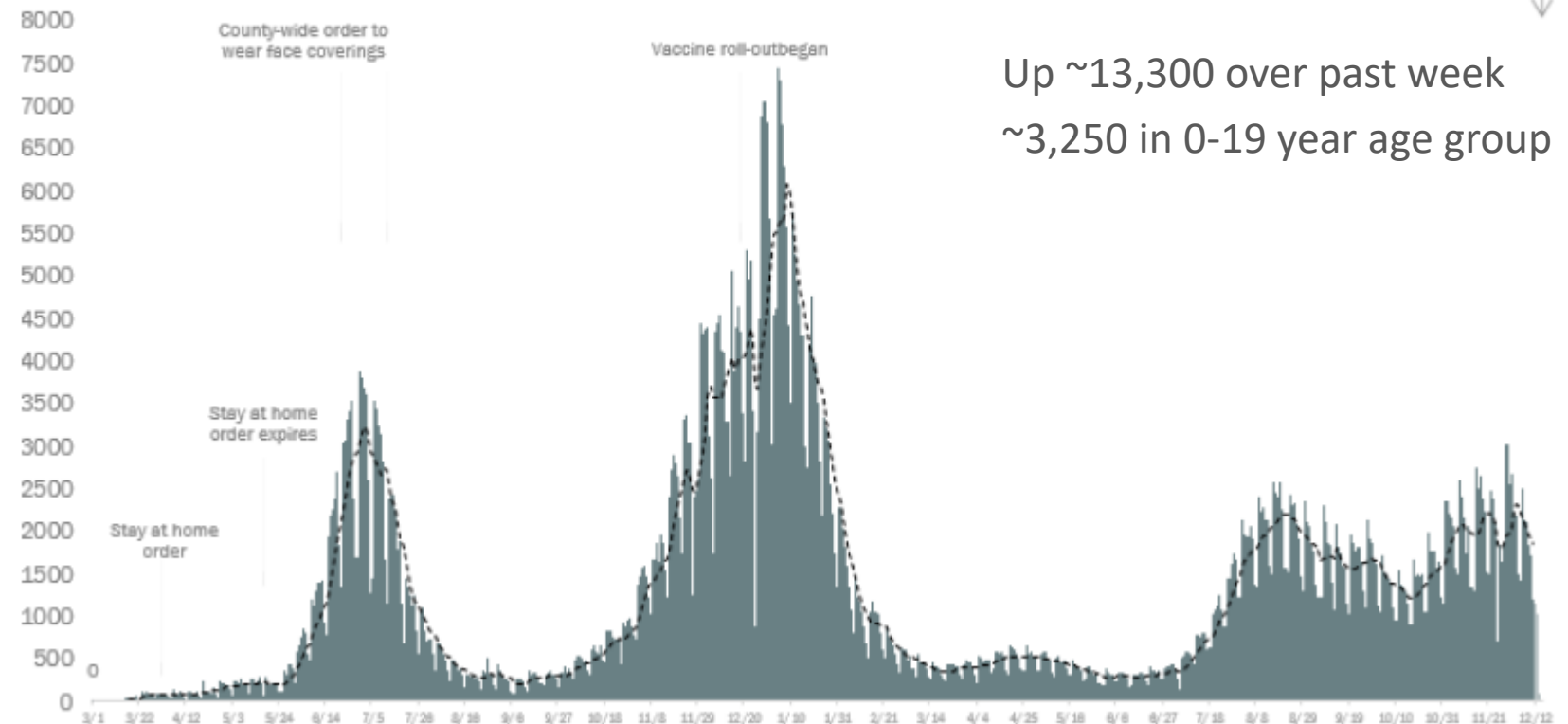


371

cases per 100,000 Maricopa County residents per week

**Maricopa County has received 829,644 confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases.**

This number is likely to increase as there is a 4 day reporting delay from when specimens were collected.



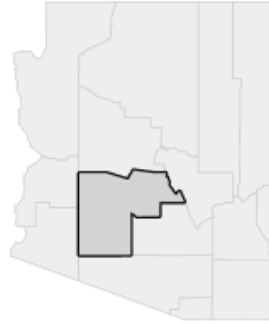
Up ~13,300 over past week  
~3,250 in 0-19 year age group

Data updated 12/15/21

# ADHS Schools Dashboard – Maricopa County

December 16, 2021

Select a county to filter the data.



What is this dashboard?

Hover over the icon to get more information on the data in this dashboard.



ADHS County-Level School Benchmarks

This dashboard is used to determine the level of community spread of COVID-19 in Arizona and assist with decision-making for the types of delivery model schools may consider.

Time Frame

The transmission indicator on this dashboard uses data from the most current complete calendar week (Sunday through Saturday). The week displayed now is:



Overall Indicator

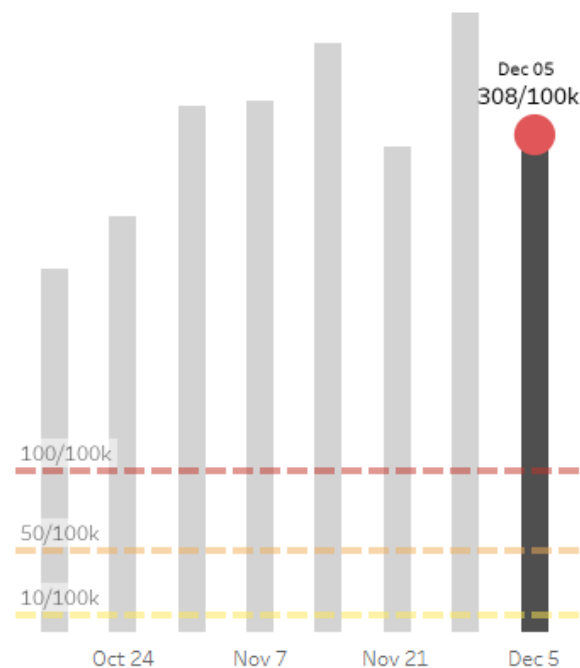
If the two indicator differs for the two metrics, the higher transmission level is chosen.

Showing data for **Maricopa County**

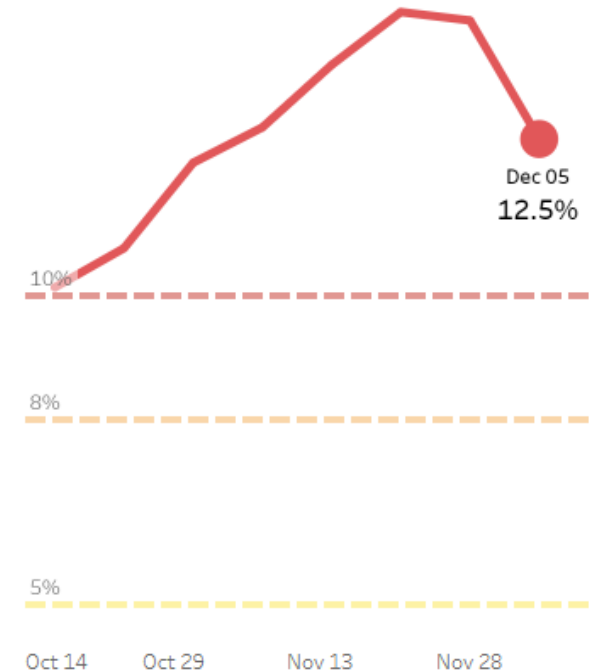
**High Transmission**

Hover for more information.

Cases per 100,000 individuals: **High**

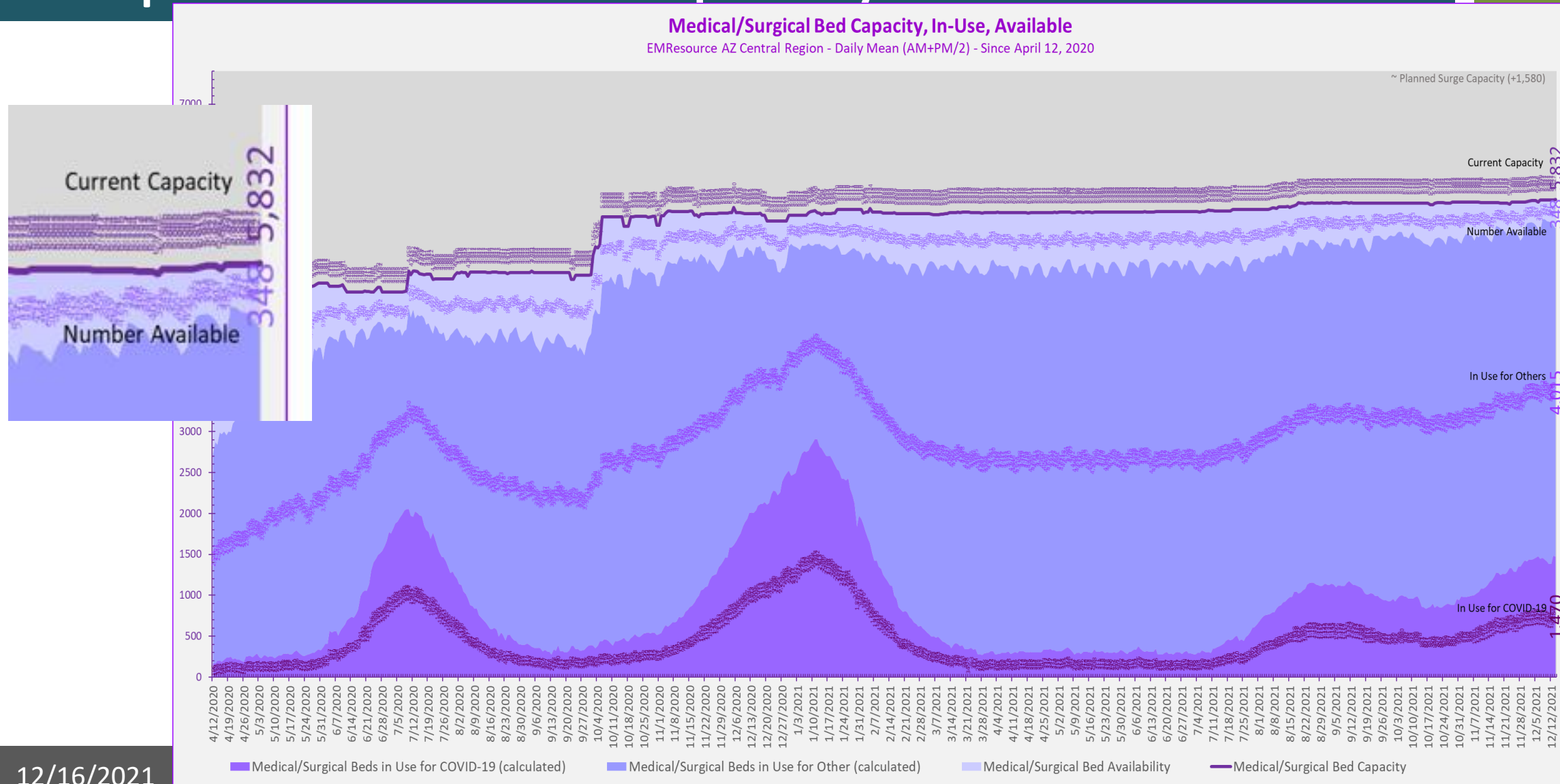


Percent positivity: **High**



Date Updated: 12/16/2021

# Hospitals are near capacity



# Flu update



- Flu cases have doubled since last week
- Predominantly Influenza A (respiratory symptoms)
- Flu and COVID-19 share many symptoms
- Recommend testing for BOTH

## 2021-2022 Influenza Season Season-To-Date Case Counts

Select a county:

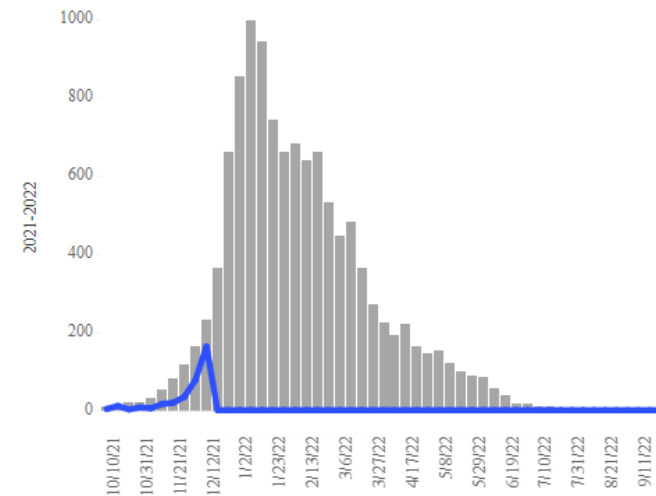
MARICOPA

Hover over the icon to get more information on the influenza data in this dashboard.

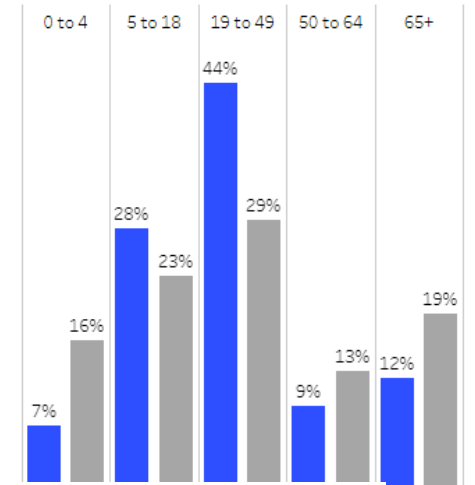


337

### When is influenza activity occurring in MARICOPA County? (current season vs 5 season average)



### Which age group is most affected by influenza in MARICOPA County? (current season vs 5 season average)



[LINK TO ->](#)

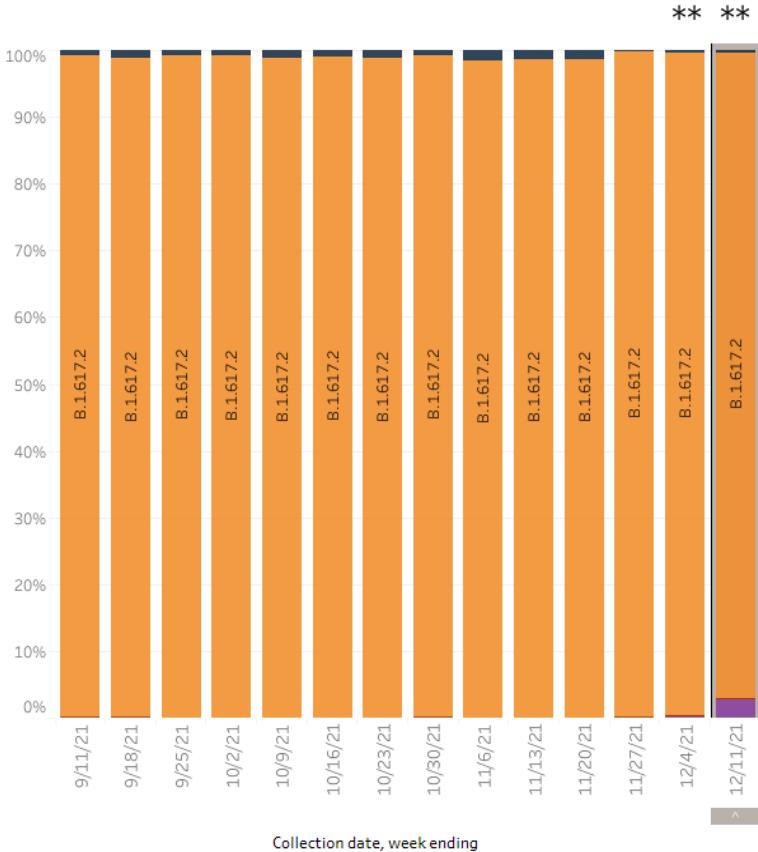
Similarities and Differences between Flu and COVID-19

# Delta is still the predominant variant, and...



United States: 9/5/2021 – 12/11/2021

United States: 12/5/2021 – 12/11/2021 NOWCAST

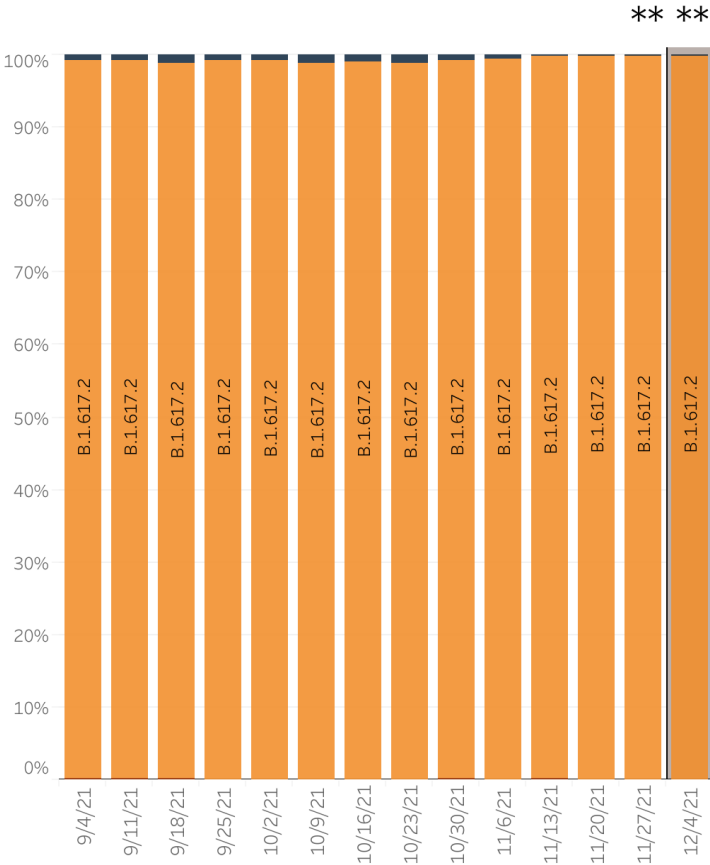


USA				
WHO label	Lineage #	US Class	%Total	95%PI
Delta	B.1.617.2	VOC	96.7%	85.9-99.6%
	AY.1	VOC	0.1%	0.0-0.1%
	AY.2	VOC	0.0%	0.0-0.0%
Omicron	B.1.1.529	VOC	2.9%	0.2-14.7%
Other	Other*		0.3%	0.2-0.6%

\* Enumerated lineages are US VOC and lineages circulating above 1% nationally in at least one week period. "Other" represents the aggregation of lineages which are circulating <1% nationally during all weeks displayed.  
\*\* These data include Nowcast estimates, which are modeled projections that may differ from weighted estimates generated at later dates  
# AY.3-AY.125 and their sublineages are aggregated with B.1.617.2. BA.1 and BA.2 are aggregated with B.1.1.529.

United States: 8/29/2021 – 12/4/2021

United States: 11/28/2021 – 12/4/2021 NOWCAST



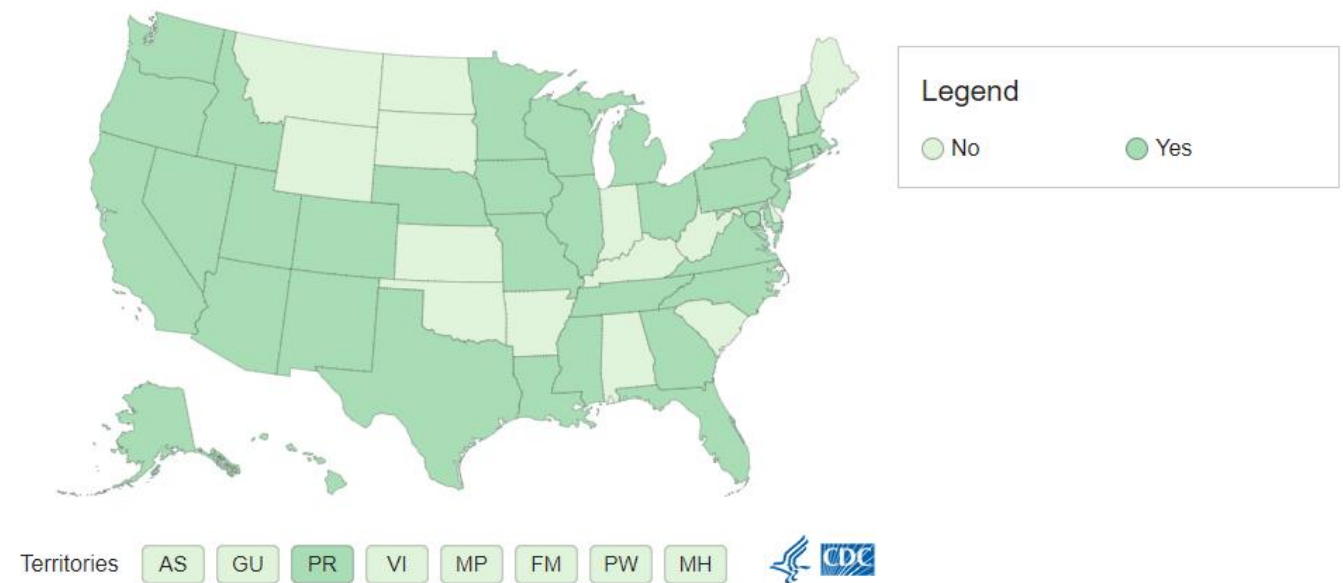
USA				
WHO label	Lineage #	US Class	%Total	95%PI
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	AY.1	VOC	0.1%	0.0-0.1%
	AY.2	VOC	0.0%	0.0-0.0%
Omicron	B.1.1.529	VOC	0.0%	0.0-0.0%
Other	Other*		0.1%	0.0-0.1%

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\*\* These data include Nowcast estimates, which are modeled projections that may differ from weighted estimates generated at later dates  
# AY.3-AY.125 and their sublineages are aggregated with B.1.617.2.

# Omicron Variant



- The Omicron variant contains more mutations than previous strains, which *appears to* lead to increased transmission and ability to infect people who have been previously infected and those who are vaccinated





# What We Know about Omicron



- **How easily does Omicron spread?** The Omicron variant likely will spread more easily than the original SARS-CoV-2 virus and how easily Omicron spreads compared to Delta remains unknown. CDC expects that anyone with Omicron infection can spread the virus to others, even if they are vaccinated or don't have symptoms.
- **Will Omicron cause more severe illness?** More data are needed to know if Omicron infections, and especially reinfections and breakthrough infections in people who are fully vaccinated, cause more severe illness or death than infection with other variants.
- **Will vaccines work against Omicron?** Current vaccines are expected to protect against severe illness, hospitalizations, and deaths due to infection with the Omicron variant. However, [breakthrough infections](#) in people who are fully vaccinated are likely to occur. With other variants, like Delta, vaccines have remained effective at preventing severe illness, hospitalizations, and death. ***The recent emergence of Omicron further emphasizes the importance of vaccination and boosters.***
- **Will treatments work against Omicron?** Scientists are working to determine how well existing treatments for COVID-19 work. Based on the changed genetic make-up of Omicron, some treatments are likely to remain effective while others may be less effective.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/variants/omicron-variant.html>

# COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters



## Everyone Ages 16 and Older Can Get a Booster Shot

IF YOU RECEIVED <b>Pfizer-BioNTech</b>	<b>Who can get a booster:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Teens 16-17 years old</li></ul> <b>Who should get a booster:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Adults 18 years and older</li></ul>	<b>When to get a booster:</b> At least 6 months after completing your primary COVID-19 vaccination series	<b>Which booster can you get:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Teens 16-17 years old can get a Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine booster</li><li>• Adults 18 years and older can get <a href="#">any of the COVID-19 vaccines</a> authorized in the United States</li></ul>
IF YOU RECEIVED <b>Moderna</b>	<b>Who should get a booster:</b> Adults 18 years and older	<b>When to get a booster:</b> At least 6 months after completing your primary COVID-19 vaccination series	<b>Which booster can you get:</b> <a href="#">Any of the COVID-19 vaccines</a> authorized in the United States
IF YOU RECEIVED <b>Johnson &amp; Johnson's Janssen</b>	<b>Who should get a booster:</b> Adults 18 years and older	<b>When to get a booster:</b> At least 2 months after completing your primary COVID-19 vaccination	<b>Which booster can you get:</b> <a href="#">Any of the COVID-19 vaccines</a> authorized in the United States

# Quarantine Protocols - Reminder



- MCDPH is following CDC guidelines – we anticipate updated guidance in next few weeks
- Potential MCDPH test-to-stay protocols will be presented to our Board of Supervisors in January
- Potential protocols will be informed by the results of our test-to-stay pilot as well as results from pilot studies from other jurisdictions

# Essential workers

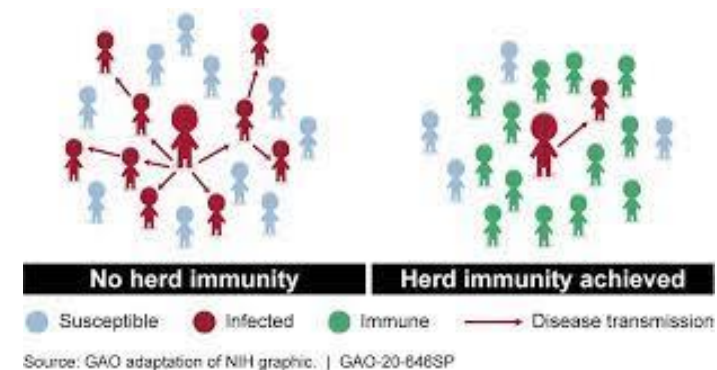


- In 2022 MCDPH guidance documents will be updated to reflect CDC and ADHS recommendations that DOES NOT provide for unvaccinated individuals to attend work while in quarantine
- Only vaccination status or recent infection (last 90 days) will exempt a non-vaccinated staff member from quarantine in the event of a close contact
- Most test-to-stay protocols apply to students only, not staff
- Encourage staff to BE VACCINATED



# Is herd immunity possible?

- Herd immunity happens when enough people have immunity to a virus that those without are far less likely to be infected
- The percent of the population needed to get to herd immunity is related to:
  - How contagious the disease is –  $R_0$  and  $R_t$
  - $R_0$  and  $R_t$  change for different variants
  - What mitigations are in place
  - Mutations of the virus
- We are not close to herd immunity



# MCDPH Provisional School Staffing Team



The Provisional School Staffing program is a COVID-19 emergency response initiative designed to provide health office support staff to underserved schools. As the product of a health-inequity grant, this program prioritizes provisional school staffing through a COVID-19 prioritization rubric based on the needs of both the school and its surrounding community.

*Our purpose* is to offset the added workload from COVID-19 related tasks, through the end of the school year

Provisional staff are **not medically certified**, but can provide **stable, customized** assistance.



## How does the Provisional School Staffing program tie in with the MRC Volunteer program?

The K-12 School Volunteer program is a project handled by the MCDPH's Medical Reserve Corp, which provides similar services using emergency response volunteer staffing. The Provisional School Staffing and MRC's program are complimentary and are not designed to supplant each other. MRC volunteer staffing will be taken into consideration with any provisional staffing placements.



# MCDPH Provisional School Staffing



## STAFF UP!

<https://ppe.maricopa.gov/K12Support>

Questions? Connect with us:

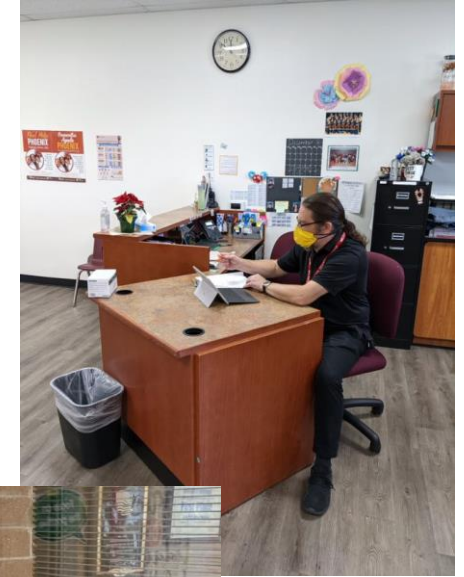
1. [SchoolsStaffingTeam@maricopa.gov](mailto:SchoolsStaffingTeam@maricopa.gov)

2. Talk with a **Regional School Coordinator**

- Ethan: 602-372-1424
- Kyle: 602-372-1443
- Main: 602-372-2060

Insight Global is hiring in your community!

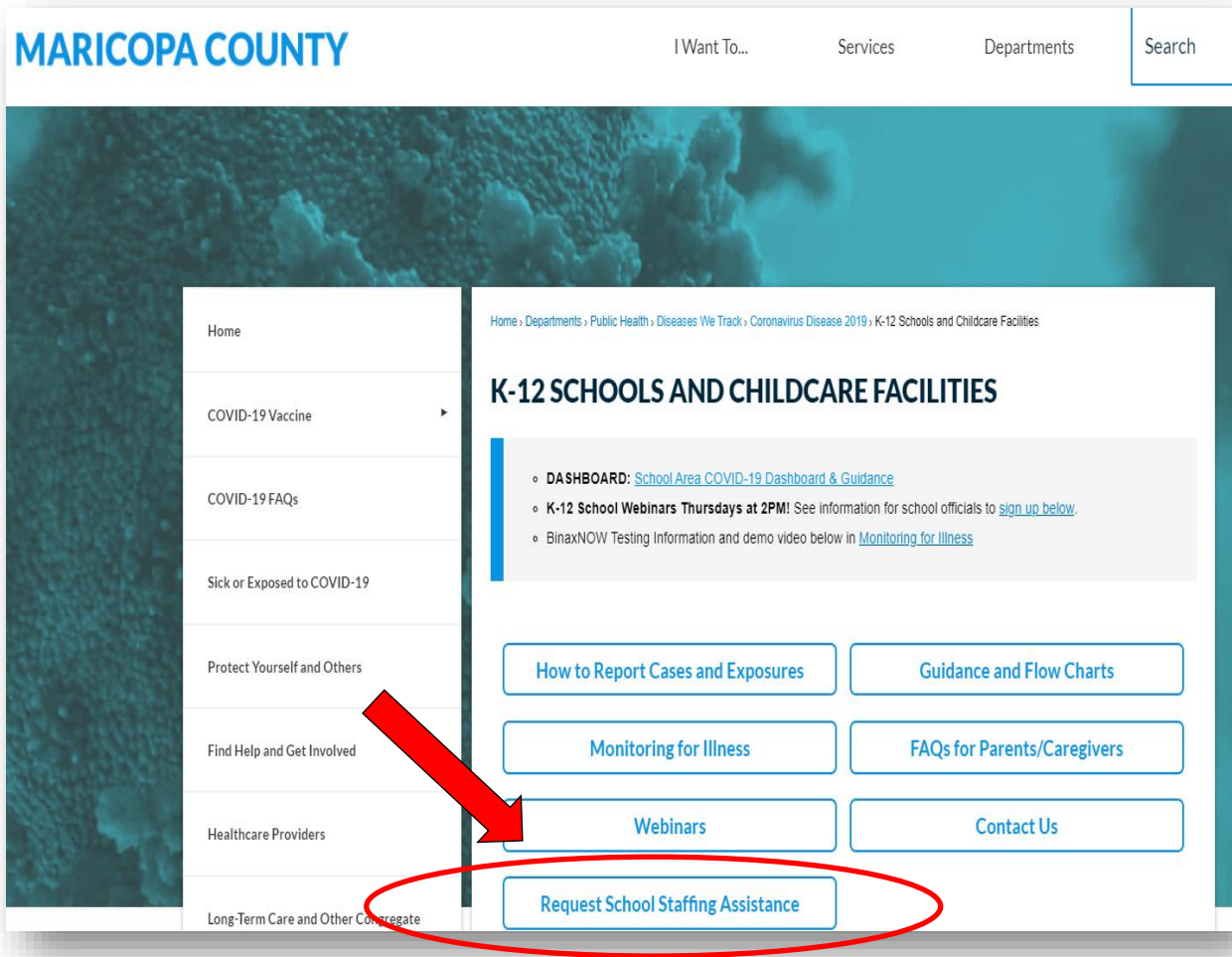
<https://bit.ly/MaricopaSchoolStaff>



# Provisional School Staffing FAQ's



<https://ppe.maricopa.gov/K12Support>



***What is the prioritization rubric?***



***How are Provisional School Staff assigned?***



***How do staffing assignments work?***



# School PPE, Cloth mask, Disinfectant & Testing Requests



- To request Hand Sanitizer, Cleaning Supplies, PPE, Testing supplies, etc... fill out a request at <https://ppe.maricopa.gov/>

**Public Health Supplies Request Form**

Contact Facility PPE Vaccine Testing Additional Submit

Please fill out this request form to the best of your abilities. Your request will be sent to the MCDPH Logistics Team for review and prioritization.

**Contact Information**

If you are a Private Practice or Private Doctor's Office please go to the Maricopa County Medical Society for requesting PPE. [Click here for their Request Form!](#)

Please provide the contact information for the person completing this form. For questions contact

First Name \*  
Principle

Last Name \*  
McGee

Phone Number \* 6025551234 Email Address \* Principle.McGee@RydellHigh.edu

**Director of Nursing/Supply Chain Manager/Principal or Superintendent**

Please provide the contact information for the person that can discuss or manages PPE inventory needs for your organization.

☒ Same as above

First Name \*  
Principle

Last Name \*  
McGee

Phone Number \* 6025551234 Email Address \* Principle.McGee@RydellHigh.edu



Disinfectant



Surgical Masks



Vaccination Supplies



N-95 Respirators



Adult size



Pediatric size



Limited quantities

E-mail  
School Health

Masks for  
Musicians



Hand Sanitizer



Testing Supplies

Request  
1-Month  
Supply please

# Check for updates and FAQs!



- Email us:
  - [COVID19Vaccine@maricopa.gov](mailto:COVID19Vaccine@maricopa.gov)
  - [SchoolHealth@maricopa.gov](mailto:SchoolHealth@maricopa.gov)
- CARES Team: (602) 506-6767
- Website <https://www.maricopa.gov/5460/Coronavirus-Disease-2019>  
<https://www.maricopa.gov/5493/K-12-Schools-and-Childcare-Facilities>

- **CDC Recommends Vaccination for Kids 5-11** Vaccination with the Pfizer pediatric COVID-19 vaccine for children 5-11 [was approved Nov. 2](#) following thorough review by the CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' (ACIP). Visit our [Vaccine Locations page](#) for updates Wednesday on vaccine events for children.
- **Booster Doses** Boosters have now been authorized for Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson and Johnson vaccines. Your booster dose may be either the same type of COVID-19 vaccine for your booster or a different COVID-19 vaccine. [Learn more](#).
- **Looking for COVID-19 vaccine?** Search for locations near you using our new vaccine finder map. [Find vaccine](#).
- **How long to stay home if sick with COVID-19:** Check out our [home isolation decision-maker tool](#) to help you know when it's safe to be around others.
- **COVID-19 text alerts:** Received a text from Public Health after testing positive for COVID-19? Visit [this page](#) for information.
- **Got questions? Maricopa CARES can help!** For questions related to COVID-19, including help needed locating free testing and vaccine events in Maricopa County, please call 602-506-6767 to speak with an operator from our CARES Team.

Merry  
**CHRISTMAS**

Happy  
DIWALI

Joyful  
HOLIDAYS

**See you January 6th!**

Happy  
**HANUKKAH**





# COVID-19 VACCINES FOR KIDS AGES 5-11



The first COVID-19 vaccine authorized for kids ages 5-11 is available! Vaccines are the most effective tool we have to keep COVID-19 from spreading and to keep kids in the classroom.

## 3 WAYS TO GET YOUR CHILD VACCINATED

- 1 SCHOOL EVENTS**  
Vaccines may be available through school events. Contact your school district for any events planned by the district or nearby districts.
- 2 COMMUNITY EVENTS**  
Maricopa County Department of Public Health is offering children's COVID-19 vaccines at most community events. See a list of community events at [Maricopa.gov/COVID19VaccineLocations](https://maricopa.gov/COVID19VaccineLocations).
- 3 HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS' OFFICES**  
Vaccines may be available through your child's healthcare provider.
  - See if your child's healthcare provider is listed as a vaccinating provider at [Maricopa.gov/COVID19VaccineLocations](https://maricopa.gov/COVID19VaccineLocations).
  - That page also lists other providers that are offering vaccines to the public.
  - You can also contact the Public Health CARES Team at (602) 506-6767 for help scheduling a vaccine appointment.

## THINGS TO KNOW

- COVID-19 vaccines are safe, effective, and free—regardless of insurance or citizenship status.
- Some providers may require appointments. Some may take walk-ins.
- Everyone who goes to a vaccine provider or event is strongly encouraged to wear a mask for their visit.
- Some providers may have paperwork available you can fill out ahead of time to reduce your waiting time.
- Need accommodations or help setting an appointment at a community event? Call the Public Health CARES Team at (602) 506-6767.
- Have questions about an event? Call the provider or organizer for details.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



- ? WILL CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS BE GIVEN PRIORITY?**  
When COVID-19 vaccines first rolled out for adults, there was not enough supply for everyone who wanted one, so they were given based on priority and risks. Now, we have enough supply of adult vaccines and children's vaccines, so all children ages 5 and older are now eligible to get a COVID-19 vaccine.
- ? WHAT DOES A CHILD NEED TO BE FULLY IMMUNIZED?**  
Children will need two doses of the Pfizer vaccine, at least 21 days apart. They will be considered fully protected two weeks after their second dose. When a child is fully immunized, they do not have to quarantine after contact with a person with COVID-19.
- ? WHERE SHOULD MY CHILD GET VACCINATED?**  
That is up to you. All events are staffed by qualified vaccine providers who are experienced at giving vaccines. You may want to consider going to your child's healthcare provider if you have specific questions about your child's health, if your child needs other vaccines, or if your child is overdue on other screenings.
- ? WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS FOR CHILDREN?**  
Similar to adults, children may experience side effects such as fever, body aches, and chills in the first few days after getting their vaccine. These are all normal, safe signs that the body is responding to the vaccine and activating an immune response that will protect them if they are exposed to the real virus.
- ? WHICH VACCINES CAN CHILDREN GET? ARE THEY FULLY APPROVED?**  
The Pfizer vaccine is the only one that has been granted an emergency use authorization (EUA) for children ages 5-11. There are more steps before full approval. Other vaccine manufacturers have children's vaccines in clinical trials, but only Pfizer is currently authorized for this age group.  
  
The Pfizer vaccine is also the only one that has been granted an EUA for ages 12-17. There are different doses for ages 5-11 than for ages 12 and up, so if you are unsure which option a provider is offering, be sure to ask.

Still have questions? Get more questions answered at [Maricopa.gov/COVID19VaccineFacts](https://maricopa.gov/COVID19VaccineFacts) or call (602) 506-6767 to speak to Maricopa County Public Health.